

REMARKS

In the restriction requirement dated March 12, 2004, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-6 were subject to a restriction requirement. Applicants elect Group I, Claims 1-4 and 7, and specie I, a heat-sealing agent, with traverse. Applicants wish to point out that in a Second Amendment Before First Office Action filed on January 7, 2002, Claims 7-12 were added. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the restriction/election requirement would be as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-4 and 7
Group II: Claims 5, 8 and 9
Group III: Claims 6 and 10-12

In order to adequately describe the presently claimed invention, Applicants are enclosing herewith newly presented Claim 13, directed to a packaged product, which would also be classified in non-elected Group III.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement as species 1 and 2 are related in the present invention. That is, as discussed in the present specification, the heat-sealing agent with a low melting point and the release agent are interchangeably applied on the prescribed zone of an oriented film, as discussed in paragraphs [0054], [0057], [0058] and [0068]. As set forth in paragraph [0057], these agents cause separation of the oriented film 2 and the cast film 3 at the coated zone as a result of melting of the heat-sealing agent 4 with a low melting point when it is used or due to low friction ability of the release agent when it is used. The cutting line 5 in the zone coated with the heat-sealing agent 4 or release agent breaks, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, and the oriented film 2 starts to open. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the low-melting heat-sealing agent and the release agent are used in the present invention in a manner which would make a restriction of them from each other improper.

Additionally, the packing material (cover) of Group II and the packaged product of Group III are prepared from the packaging material of Group I. Accordingly, if the subject matter of Group I is allowable, the subject matter of Groups II and III also would be allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted,


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